

BULBS

The regulations in 7 CFR 319.37-1 define “bulb” as “the portion of a plant commonly known as a bulb, bulbil, bulblet, corm, cormel, rhizome, tuber, or pip, and including fleshy roots or other underground fleshy growths, a unit of which produces an individual plant.” Bulbs, except precleared bulbs, are subject to inspection and will be treated if plant pests of quarantine significance are found. Most dormant bulbs do not require a written permit for entry. Articles that are sprouting or that have above ground portions attached require a permit if the lot contains 13 or more articles. Mail shipments may be addressed directly to the recipient. Such parcels must be plainly labeled to identify the contents.

Certificates

Bulbs, except precleared bulbs, must be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the plant protection service of the country of origin, including an additional declaration for freedom of potato cyst nematodes from specified countries. See 7 CFR 319-37-5 (a) for the list of countries.

Bulbs That Require a Written Permit

The following do require a permit:

- Bulbs of *Allium sativum* (garlic), *Crocasmia* spp. (Montebretia), *Gladiolus* spp. (Gladiolus) and *Watsonia* spp. (bugle lily) from New Zealand.
- *Allium sativum* (garlic) bulbs from Algeria, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Republic of South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, countries of the former USSR, Federal Republic of Germany (West), and Yugoslavia require both a written permit and treatment.
- Bulbs protected by CITES (for example, *Bletia* spp., *Bletilla* spp., *Cyclamen* spp., *Galanthus* spp., *Pecteilis radiata*, and *Sternbergia* spp.) require a General Permit and CITES documents. See <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.shtml> for a complete list.
- Articles showing signs of new growth (i.e., not dormant) or having above ground portions attached, when the lot contains more than 12 articles.

Other Bulb Restrictions

- Bulbs of *Crocasmia*, *Gladiolus* and *Watsonia* are prohibited from Africa, Argentina and Uruguay. Noncommercial shipments of these genera are also prohibited from Brazil, France, Italy, Malta, Mauritius and Portugal.

- Bulbs of *Homeria* spp. are prohibited because they are Federal noxious weeds.
- Bulbs must be free from soil.

The attachment includes a list of genera and species that have underground parts that conform to the definition of bulbs contained in 319.37-1. The attachment designates bulbs and dormant perennials; both are included within the current definition of bulb. The difference, for regulatory purposes, is that bulbs that are not precleared may enter any port for inspection, whereas dormant perennials that are not precleared must enter through a port with a Plant Inspection Station. The attachment is part of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Port of Entry Manual for nursery stock, which is constantly updated. The attachment is current when we mail it to you, but is subject to change. For the most current information, you can access the Plant Protection and Quarantine manuals on the Internet at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals/port/port_index.html.

Click on [Clearing Flower Bulbs-CBP.pdf](#)